



BRAINTREE

Norfolk County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Braintree is a suburban community with a strong residential character located ten miles south of Boston. Incorporated in 1640, Braintree has a rich history and a promising future. The town is ideally situated at the crossroads of Route I-93 (128) and Route 3 for easy access to the Greater Boston area and Cape Cod as well as having excellent public transportation to Boston and Logan International Airport. The community has a good mix of established neighborhoods, small clusters of new homes and several condominium complexes.

There is a strong business base which includes one of the largest regional shopping centers in the northeast; The South Shore Plaza. Attractive office and industrial parks are located in the town as well, because of its ideal location.

Braintree has a rich history. Old Braintree was the birthplace of two presidents, John Adams and John Quincy Adams, as well as John Hancock and General Sylvanus Thayer, the founder of West Point.

Residents feel that people are attracted to Braintree as a good place to live and work because it has an excellent public school system as well as Thayer Academy and Archbishop Williams High School, and a fine parks and recreation program with the availability of many recreational resources such as Town Forest, Pond Meadow Park, Sunset Lake, Smith Beach, the Cranberry Pond Conservation District, the MDC Blue Hills Reservation trail system, and an 18 hole public golf course.

Braintree is a mature community with a broad residential and business base that is positioned for controlled growth in the coming years.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Randolph on the west, Quincy on the northwest and north, Weymouth on the east, and Holbrook on the south. Braintree is 11 miles north of Brockton, 12 miles south of Boston, and 220 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 14.52 sq. miles

Land Area: 13.89 sq. miles

Population: 33,836

Density: 2,436 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Hingham Station)

Normal temperature in January.....27.4°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.5°F

Normal annual precipitation.....47.7"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Blue Hills, Weymouth

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 848-1870

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Executive Secretary

Representative Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1640

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	19,950		
Democrats	9,730	48.8	%
Republicans	2,856	14.3	%
Other parties	20	0.1	%
Unenrolled Voters	7,344	36.8	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Braintree town, Norfolk County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	33,828	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	33,828	100.0
Male.....	15,935	47.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	394	1.2
Female.....	17,893	52.9	Mexican.....	46	0.1
Under 5 years.....	2,084	6.2	Puerto Rican.....	138	0.4
5 to 9 years.....	2,085	6.2	Cuban.....	28	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	2,121	6.3	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	182	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	1,957	5.8	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	33,434	98.8
20 to 24 years.....	1,543	4.6	White alone.....	31,545	93.3
25 to 34 years.....	4,340	12.8	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	5,449	16.1	Total population.....	33,828	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	4,645	13.7	In households.....	33,019	97.6
55 to 59 years.....	1,853	5.5	Householder.....	12,652	37.4
60 to 64 years.....	1,614	4.8	Spouse.....	7,006	20.7
65 to 74 years.....	3,050	9.0	Child.....	10,601	31.3
75 to 84 years.....	2,248	6.6	Own child under 18 years.....	7,039	20.8
85 years and over.....	899	2.5	Other relatives.....	1,626	4.8
Median age (years).....	40.0	(X)	Under 18 years.....	469	1.4
18 years and over.....	26,230	77.5	Nonrelatives.....	1,134	3.4
Male.....	12,006	35.5	Unmarried partner.....	493	1.5
Female.....	14,224	42.0	In group quarters.....	809	2.4
21 years and over.....	25,298	74.8	Institutionalized population.....	769	2.3
62 years and over.....	7,094	21.0	Noninstitutionalized population.....	40	0.1
65 years and over.....	6,137	18.1	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	2,999	7.1	Total households.....	12,652	100.0
Female.....	3,738	11.1	Family households (families).....	8,912	70.4
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	3,750	29.6
One race.....	33,507	99.1	Married-couple family.....	7,006	55.4
White.....	31,784	94.0	With own children under 18 years.....	3,043	24.1
Black or African American.....	398	1.2	Female householder, no husband present.....	1,476	11.7
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	36	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	594	4.7
Asian.....	1,062	3.1	Nonfamily households.....	3,740	29.6
Asian Indian.....	131	0.4	Householder living alone.....	3,087	24.4
Chinese.....	542	1.6	Householder 65 years and over.....	1,504	11.9
Filipino.....	79	0.2	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	4,058	32.1
Japanese.....	16	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	4,075	32.2
Korean.....	56	0.2	Average household size.....	2.61	(X)
Vietnamese.....	141	0.4	Average family size.....	3.16	(X)
Other Asian ¹	97	0.3	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	11	-	Total housing units.....	12,973	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	4	-	Occupied housing units.....	12,652	97.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	5	-	Vacant housing units.....	321	2.5
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	2	-	occasional use.....	49	0.4
Some other race.....	216	0.6	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.3	(X)
Two or more races.....	321	0.9	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	3.3	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	12,652	100.0
White.....	32,065	94.8	Owner-occupied housing units.....	9,801	77.5
Black or African American.....	497	1.5	Renter-occupied housing units.....	2,851	22.5
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	103	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.79	(X)
Asian.....	1,156	3.4	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.00	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	24	0.1			
Some other race.....	337	1.0			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 197

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 152

Federal (Section 8): 140



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Braintree is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 3, 37, 53, and 128.

Rail

MBTA subway service is available on the Red Line from Braintree Station (25 min to Park Street; 1,228 MBTA parking spaces) and from Quincy Adams Station. The Bay Colony Railroad (contact number: 617-380-3556), Conrail (617-783-6222), and the Quincy Bay Terminal Railroad (603-226-3395) all provide freight rail service and interchange traffic in Braintree.

Bus

Member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), with service to Quincy Center, Weymouth Landing, the Brockton line, South Shore Plaza and Randolph, also THE RIDE, a paratransit service for the elderly and disabled. Carey's Bus Lines provides commuter service to Boston. The Plymouth and Brockton Street Railway Company provides commuter service to Plymouth.

Other

The Norwood Memorial Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,001' x 150' and 4,007' x 150'. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision. Massport's Logan Express provides non-stop service between Logan Airport and Braintree.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Braintree Hospital
Mass. Respiratory Hospital

Long Term Care

Braintree Manor Rehab Nursing Center
Elihu White Nursing & Rehab. Center
Franklin Nursing Home
Franvale Nursing Home
Hollingsworth House Nursing Home
John Scott House Nursing & Rehab. Center
Resthaven Nursing Home

Hospices

The Hospice Of The South Shore

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.